

19312 East Eldorado Drive  
Aurora, Colorado 80013  
January 11, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Microsoft and the Justice Department have come to an agreement in the antitrust case. This agreement has led to a settlement that could finally put this case to rest. It is my hope that you will strongly support the settlement and ensure it is put into place so this case can end at the federal level.

I have worked in the software industry since the early 1980's and saw the popularity of Microsoft products raise not because of monopolistic practices but because of their ease of use. Because of Microsoft millions of average persons are able to use computers, and not just hobbyists and professionals. The settlement is on the table will help to alleviate any concerns about competitiveness in the IT industry. What is most beneficial about the settlement is that it will end this case and allow the IT industry to start focusing on software and not court cases.

I support this settlement, and look forward to seeing the case resolved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter E. Holden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peter Holden